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CORRUPTION IN THE CAPITAL

Accusations abound concerning Mulroney, secret funds and U.S. takeover of Canada

BY JOYA BALFOUR

What do Brian Mulroney, Lucien Bouchard and the U.S. government have in common? According to Glen Kealey and Shelley Ann Clark, they are conspiring to facilitate the quick separation of Québec and the subsequent U.S. takeover of Canada.

Glen Kealey, former Tory and prominent Hull developer, and Shelley Ann Clark, who for 32 years was a top civil servant in Ottawa have been waging a media war on Tory corruption. Last Monday, Kealey and Clark came to McGill.

Kealey, an independent candidate running in the Ottawa-area riding of Pontiac-Gatineau-Labelle, is best known for spearheading the MICOT office development in Hull.

This led to accusations that former Public Works Minister Roch LaSalle attempted to bribe Kealey for a purported \$5 000 payoff and a 5 per cent kickback in exchange for LaSalle's contracted lease in MICOT.

NAFTA trade documents altered by Tories

Clark, a National Party candidate in the Ottawa riding of Carleton-Gloucester, worked as executive assistant to Germain Denis, the third-ranked trade negotiator in the NAFTA talks. Clark's accusations, concerning the alteration of documents sent to the provinces, have not yet provoked a full-scale investigation.

Kealey has similar accusations. His main focus is the influence Brian Mulroney continues to wield in Canadian political circles, including an alleged secret fund amassed from crooked political activities.

In November 1989, Kealey brought his conspiracy charges privately before Ontario Justice of the Peace Lynn Coulter. One of his main witnesses, former junior Transport minister, Suzanne Blais-Grenier, stated:

"I have made reference to the question of patronage and kickbacks on government contracting. I am convinced that this exists in a very organized fashion. Certain government contracts involve tens, indeed hundreds of millions of dollars. I'm not talking about \$1 000 passed under the table."

Mulroney's secret fund

Blais-Grenier also admits to being instructed by PC officials to add 5 per cent to all large budget items in Transport, which would later be diverted to Mulroney's fund.

"The big fraud upon the government that was demonstrated at our hearing was that Brian Mulroney ran a secret PC fund out of his own office," said Kealey.

"He was getting kickbacks off major government contracts, being investigated for his participation in drug activities...and running things like fraud upon the Department of National Revenue where they collected a billion dollars in rebates out of national revenue and added \$175 000 per piece of equipment to buy the post office in Toronto," added Kealey.

Dismantling of social programs through NAFTA was the shocker for Clark.

"I was ordered to alter these [NAFTA provincial briefs] documents by subject. What was altered specifically was the social security program, subsidies, agriculture, our pension, and most important of all, there was a chart created showing the implementation scheme for Canada becoming the 51st state of the United States of America," said Clark.

Canada to become 51st state

This planned U.S. takeover of Canada by the year 2005 was the one conspiracy theory that Kealey and Clark seemed to share information on.

Clark describes a plan known as the "Grand Canal", which allows for freshwater in James Bay and the surrounding rivers to be gradually diverted into the U.S.

This plan, which would cripple energy and water supplies across Canada, enables the Americans to "save the day." Kealey refers to this takeover as a planned move by Brian Mulroney and Lucien Bouchard.

Mulroney's first objective was and still is the eventual separation of Québec from Canada, Kealey says.

Mulroney funding Bloc Québécois

"He [Mulroney] had to defy Canadians French and English. He's done that. And he's sitting on five or six billion dollars today and I'm guaranteeing you he's funding Lucien Bouchard. The election and the fight between Bouchard and Brian Mulroney are as phony as Wrestlemania."

With former Tories running as Liberals, Reform or Bloc candidates, the Bloc Québécois is able to break through and win forty to fifty seats. Kealey claims the separation of Québec will be achieved quickly with the Bloc in place.

When the Grand Canal plan succeeds by Canada joining the U.S., Kealey believes, Québec will be isolated, becoming the "Louisiana of the North." This will be the final chapter of American assimilation on this continent.

The fact that a former prime minister of Canada would conspire to break up his country and eventually sell out to the United States, nonetheless, is quite an accusation.

Upon hearing the initial corruption stories of Kealey and Clark, emphasizing the LaSalle and Denis affairs, one is persuaded to believe that those kinds of activities frequently happen under the noses of Canadians.

But to come out and say that top government officials in all major parties are cohorts in a conspiracy this vast, is overwhelming and difficult to swallow at best.

People everywhere refer to the government as "those crooked politicians", but are reluctant to buy the stories of whistleblowers like Kealey and Clark. Are we just refusing to believe that our federal government might be a network of hidden agendas and false political parties?

In these final days leading up to the election, Canadians are sticking to the general belief that their votes will determine the party that will best represent their interests.

However, Kealey and Clark will continue to spread their message to Canadians hoping that eventually all of us will realize that corruption is destroying our country.

"This gang ain't givin' up," concludes Glen Kealey.



Smokin'e-in at the smok

Canada should deal dope

Criminalization will break the bank

BY CARRINA GORDON AND
KRISTIN ANDREWS

A number of representatives from the Montréal police force attended a smoke-in for the legalization of marijuana at Berri Park last Saturday. While the cops only inhaled second-hand smoke, about 300 civilians, ranging from die-hard potheads to the amused, lit up for cannabis.

"This is not a joke," said Michel Lalancette, a member of the Anti-Prohibition League which, together with the Rhino Party, organized the smoke-in.

"We should have the freedom to smoke pot without being treated as criminals. We aren't criminals. People who smoke marijuana are just everyday people," Lalancette said.

The Canadian government thinks otherwise. The maximum jail term for possession of marijuana is seven years, while trafficking the plant could get you life in prison. In 1990, 25 000 Canadians were charged with possession or trafficking of marijuana.

"If Canada would only stop spending so much money on prosecuting people who use marijuana, they could actually make some money selling it," said Robert Hamon, minister of agriculture for the Rhino Party.

The cost of enforcing the Canadian prohibition against marijuana use runs up to \$60 million each year.

"We see pot as a job creator," Hamon said. He suggested that the

government regulate the sale of marijuana in the same way that they regulate the use of alcohol and cigarettes.

Hamon is shocked, he said, that hemp, the low-THC cousin of pot proper, is still illegal in both the U.S. and Canada. Hemp is a highly efficient producer of paper products. The large-scale cultivation of hemp could put forestry out of business, Hamon said.

Jim Fulton, MP from Skeena in the heart of the forests of Vancouver Island, sponsored a bill to legalize marijuana and its benign relatives in Parliament last April. A survey which Fulton conducted concluded that 75-80 per cent of Canadians favor some form of decriminalization of marijuana.

Fulton's Bill CH20 was supported by two seemingly unlikely allies: the Canadian Bar Association and the Canadian Medical Association.

One smoke-in demonstrator, who did not want his name used for legal reasons, thinks it's about time the government stopped contradicting itself on pot policy. "Politicians are all trying to show that they're just like everyone else, telling us they've smoked pot, but if they are just like ordinary citizens why don't they show it?"

"I'm just a nice, average guy, I don't feel I should go to jail for smokin' up," he said.

The Anti-Prohibition League is planning to hold more smoke-ins and demonstrations until pot is legalized.

Welfare cuts will bleed those who most want to work

BY GILLIAN DONALD

New provincial welfare cuts, legislated October 1, will primarily affect recipients who have applied to participate in a provincial job retraining program but have been denied because of a lack of available positions.

Minister of Income Securities Alain Bourbeau proposed the changes which have cut the monthly premium of welfare recipients in the Work Employment and Incentives Programme (WEIP).

Rick Goldman, who works as a legal clinic supervisor at Project Genesis, a community organization providing legal counselling for low-income citizens, criticized the cuts, "Not only is the penalty unjustifiable, but it is even greater (for people who want to work) than for people who are not interested in participating."

Welfare recipients who can't work and those who are enrolled in job retraining programs will see

slight cuts in their monthly welfare checks. But those who are waitlisted for participation in job retraining programs will be particularly hard hit, seeing a \$30 cut which will decrease their checks from \$580 to \$550 a month.

In theory, the recipients in the available category will be more motivated to participate in a work program under the new scale because those who are enrolled in job retraining programs are now making \$100 a month more than those who aren't.

But there are already 250 000 people on waiting lists for only 60 000 job retraining program positions, said Richard Clattenburg, a volunteer at the St. Columbo House Welfare Rights Committee and Advocacy.

Under the new scale, welfare recipients must wait six months before they can even apply to a job retraining program. During these six months, the recipient receives the lowest monthly premium.

This is a system that breeds content, said Earl McCarthy, senior supervisor of Old Brewery Mission, a shelter that provides food, clothing and a bed to homeless people, welfare recipients, new immigrants and travellers.

"No sense of urgency is created by forcing the six month waiting period" on the recipients, McCarthy said.

Jean-Hughe Brousseau, spokesperson for the Québec Income Securities Department, said the modifications to the program are necessary, based on strictly financial considerations.

But Clattenburg questioned the shortsightedness of the government's reasoning. "It's all money, simple as that," he said. Clattenburg said the government should have studied the effects of these changes on the long-term impacts of cutting welfare payments in the very place where increased spending could help people leave welfare behind.

Pitchblende:

A New Landmark on Pop's Visceral Plane

BY JONAH BRUCKER-COHEN

With the grinding, almost permeating guitar clamour of their first single, Pitchblende exploded out of the basement and dazzled the now renowned Washington, D.C. underground music scene.

The story of this Silver Spring, Maryland band began through the classified section of the City Paper, a Washington weekly. Guitarist Justin Chearno, once a member of the D.C. indie-pop band Unrest, stated his need to fill that gap in his life.

With Pitchblende, he got his wish. Prolific from the beginning, Pitchblende released a ten song demo-tape with several tracks not found on their album.

The sound of Pitchblende is one that is not easily placed. The steady pulverizing beats from drummer Patrick Gough's kit echo harshly behind the rumbling thunder of guitarist Treiops Treyfid in "Laquer Box." Pitchblende weave a tight, pressure heated, churning whirlpool of pop noise that spins like a tempest growing faster at each beat.

As bassist Scott DeSimon lays the foundation, the guitars of Treyfid and Chearno swirl around it, drawing it deeper and heavier into an excited frenzy of sound.

From the serious assault on television in Cyclorama, "A blue screen, living in others' scenes, takes you where you'd rather be, shows you what you'd rather see..." to the almost satirical language of Flax, "You've got a license plate, it says I Love My Cat; you paid money for

that, but your car is cute..." Pitchblende strikes a substantial mix between pop energy and melodic noise hidden behind distorted vocals.

Their new album, Kill Atom Smasher, dually released in April 1993 on Cargo/Fistpuppet includes nine unnamed sound bites interspersed between thirteen songs. Mixed by Eli Janney and Charles Bennington at Inner Ear Studios in D.C. (Dischord), the album carries exhilarating force, pulling the listener further into a vortex of spinning sound.

Pitchblende open for Bliss Oct. 20 at Café Campus. You can order their debut album from Cargo or contact Pitchblende to send them "Hate Mail" (as they put it) at P.O. Box 65627, Washington, D.C., 20035-5627.



Cover of Pitchblende's latest masterpiece, Kill Atom Smasher.

Events

The Ukrainian Students' Association always welcomes new members. You don't even have to be a Uke. C'MON BE A KOZAK AND JOIN US!! call Taras at 737-0146 or see us in Shatner 416.

Auditions for a Musical Review. Your chance to perform your favourite Broadway tune. Call Savoy Society for more info. 398-6826/342-9933.

Call for papers. The History Student's Association is accepting papers on the subject of Women in History for a colloquium to be held Oct. 28th. Submit 10-30 pg. papers at the History Office, 6th floor Leacock until Oct. 21.

SSMU Environmental Committee meeting. All students welcome.

550 Sherbrooke Rm 1180. 18h-19h. Call Mark Sherman 333-2877.

What is Progressive Zionism? Today 17h30 PM at Hillel House, 3460 Stanley. All welcome.

Culturefest '93 (Nov. 1-5). Photographic display. The Photographic society is arranging a display entitled "Faces around the World". Please submit any photographs relating to this theme at B07 before Mon. Oct. 25th. Questions: Paola 932-3974/Network 398-6778.

B.S.N. meeting. Today 18h00 Rm. 302- Shatner Building. Topic- Symposium- Somalia and UN involvement- guest speaker.

The Arab Students' Association will

be holding their first General Assembly today in Room 302 in the Union building at 12h.

Argentinian Women in Shantytowns. "Coping Through Cooperative Strategies" by Patricia Morey. Today at 17h in Union Building, Room 302. Presented by the Latin American Awareness Group and Open Road.

Auditions. Male actors needed. Auditions for roles in the independent student video "Supporting Cast" will be held Wednesday, October 20 and Thursday, October 21 in Room 230 of the Arts Building. For more information call

Greg at 842-0470.

Loonie Line. "Place your Loonie on the Line in support of Centraide". Today, 8h to 17h. Sponsored by the Plumber's Philharmonic Orchestra.

Centre for Developing Area Studies (CDAS) 1993-94 Open House at 3715 Peel St. Today 17h-20h.

Was your last retreat into the great outdoors Open Air Pub? Check out the McGill Outing Club. Meetings all Wed. 19h30 Leacock 132 or 26.

"Maskillage", A queer ball, dykes! fags! bi's! Friday, Oct. 22. 3rd floor Shatner building. \$4 at door. \$3 in costume. Doors open at 21h.

SSMU BRIEFS

Frat funding

Ruth Promislow, vp University Affairs of the Students' Society, is bringing to Senate a proposal today to end all fundraising efforts at McGill for fraternities.

McGill's Alma Mater Fund does not actively campaign for gifts to fraternities, yet does allow donors to direct their money to wherever they want on campus. According to Promislow, five donations have been directed to fraternities in the past five years.

Certain councillors at October 14th's Student Council Meeting objected to Promislow's move, claiming that she is attempting to push an issue that simply doesn't occur enough to warrant attention.

Promislow responded that she is merely clearing up two inconsistent policies within the University structure — one which restricts McGill fundraising to affirmative-action groups only and another which still allows for money to be directed to fraternities.

"They (the Development office) have the ability to use their time, staff and resources to start up a whole fundraising campaign. That policy can be enforced at any point in time."

Motion to support committee on El Salvador rejected

At October 14th's Student Council Meeting, Clubs Rep John Saunders presented a motion to support the Committee for Democratic Elections in El Salvador. Councillors voted against endorsing the Committee.

The Committee hopes to facilitate El Salvador's 1994 elections, which will be monitored by the United Nations. The principle objective of the Committee is to inform the El Salvadorean public about the democratic process. Mark Manly, a member of the Committee, asked Students' Society for nominal support only.

Students' Society president Mark Luz and vp Andrew Work were the only councillors to wholly support the motion. "I don't think we should be scared to take positions like this," said Luz.

Other councillors expressed reluctance to put the SSMU name behind political issues that do not directly affect students on campus. There was some concern as to the precedent that endorsement of the motion would set.

"It's not a dangerous precedent," responded Saunders. "Why not (take a stance)? We have a stance on First Nations sovereignty."

The issue took a laughable turn when Arts Rep Corey Cook amended the motion so that it read: "Be it resolved that SSMU is a democratic institution and supports the democratic process as integral to basic human and civil rights." (This statement existed in the original motion, but as a clause beginning with 'Whereas' in the place of 'Be it resolved').

The motion failed.

Federal Youth Leaders in Party Mode

BY DOUG SAUNDERS

OTTAWA (CUP)—It's 9:30 on a Wednesday night and Michel Chartrand is hard at work. The slender 24-year-old, just back from a campaign foray into Montréal, looks almost comfortable amidst the non-stop chaos that is his party's election headquarters.

"All those baby boomers, they own a car and a house, have a very secure job, and they spew the line that there's a problem with the deficit, because they're being taxed at a certain percentage. They've lost all conception of investing in one's future."

Chartrand's slight frown and lit and steadfast confidence are reminiscent of a younger Trudeau—a comparison he would no doubt find flattering. Tomorrow he will join Jean Chrétien on the campaign jet. Now he drives his point home, tapping an unlit cigarette against the table for emphasis.

"They are concerned with the fiscal deficit, whereas I would say that the younger generation is concerned more with the social deficit. When a child doesn't eat before going off to school, or when someone doesn't get a proper education, that is a social deficit. So I think there is a gap there."

This is pay dirt. I wanted to interview the leaders of the youth wings of the Liberals, the Tories and the NDP so I could find out why people my age — you know, that age — would saddle themselves to the dinosaurs that are Canada's major parties. Why would anyone bother? Aside from the been-there-done-it boredom of their creaky ideologies, there's the fact that all their leaders are decidedly wrinkly.

But Chartrand almost sounds like he's onto something. The story goes something like this: it's all the fault of the sixties kids, who took all the good jobs, told us they had all the political ideas and filled our radio stations with their sucky music. And now that they've all become rich and comfortable, they want to take away our slice of the public pie.

This is one of the more popular variants on the oft-touted Generation X theme. It's convincing enough, with youth unemployment at more than 17 per cent and Eric Clapton mumbling Layla endlessly on the radio. And it leads young Liberals to a cathartic conclusion: get rid of those yuppie-loving Tories and our new government will give everyone a bigger slice!

Mimicking the 59-year-old Jean Chrétien, Chartrand ticks off policies from the Liberals' little red book: job creation programs, skills training, a youth corps. "What we're proposing is that we grow the economy," he concludes. But the fertilizer for all this growth will come from giving break to all those yuppie-owned businesses. "What we have to do is to give the private sector all the tools necessary, so that the business environment is inductive to job growth," he says.

But then, Chartrand is an odd sort of rebel. He says he first got excited about politics watching the 1983 Conservative leadership convention on TV in his Ottawa Valley home. I ask him if he could just as easily have become a Tory. "It's hard to say," he admits. "If the Tories would have asked me first — not that anyone asked me to join, I did take the initiative on my own — but if the Tories had asked me first, I don't think I would be a Tory... who

knows."

"But there's no shaking me now," he quickly adds.

Party lackeys

The Hungarian opposition party Fidesz until recently wouldn't allow anyone over 35 into its ranks. Don't trust them, as the saying goes, in this case because they were almost certainly associated with the old regime.

This would be unthinkable in Canada. Over the last 35 years, the federal parties have become adept at incorporating youthful agitation into their machinery.

"It all started in the mid-fifties," says Nigel Moses, who is researching a doctoral thesis on the history of national student politics for the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education.

The Liberals were quick to follow, and both parties spent the late 1950s furiously organizing campus clubs. The Diefenbaker and Pearson victories were both fought aggressively on university campuses. The student world was ripe terrain, with the post-war youth population expanding into higher education and new campuses popping up all over the country. The Liberals even went as far as promising free tuition in the early 1960s (a promise they soon dropped).

"Basically, it was a party strategy to recruit people into the party at an earlier age, when they were on campus," says Moses. "But it was a really top-down organization. Youth delegates would go to conventions and be told how the world worked."

All that changed between 1967 and 1968. The 'big three' all restructured their parties in those years, opening up leadership conventions to wide-open competition and guaranteeing youth delegates real power — a third of the vote at conventions for the Tories and Liberals, and a seat on the national executive for the NDP. According to University of British Columbia political science professor Ken Carty, this gave youth delegates an active and contentious role in the party.

"The Conservatives and Liberals cemented youth into their parties through the leadership selection process," says Carty. "They became the troops of a leadership campaign."

In spite of their relative power, youth wings have rarely challenged the authority of the party leadership — and when they have, they have been reprimanded or expelled. "Political clubs have always attracted students who want to get involved with parties, not ones who want to change things,"

says Moses.

The students who are attracted to party politics have always been "on the margins of campus life," Moses says. While student activists tend to expend their political energies on campus, party youth direct it all at the party bureaucracy.

"I think they're still basically lackeys of the party," he says.

NDP grassroots politics

They say youth go to Liberal conventions to get laid, Tory conventions to get drunk and NDP conventions to get pamphlets. Indeed, a striking thing about most NDP conventions is the relative absence of small armies of hyped-up twentysomethings.

Back in the sixties and early seventies, the NDP youth mounted some real challenges to the leadership of the party. They were a force to be reckoned with, their unabashedly socialist ideology and nationalist sentiments terrifying to the more moderate union representatives who dominate the party. In the early 1970s, the party voted to ban the rebellious youth-based coalition — and youth have been kept on the party's sidelines since then.

"That stuff all happened before I was born," says Maya Russell, the 19-year-old leader of the federal NDP youth. "Still, I can't say our representation at conventions is what we'd like it to be."

Nonetheless, Russell says things are improving for youth in her party. Speaking over the phone from the Vancouver-area riding of Surrey North, where she campaigns for local candidate Jim Karpoff, she says the NDP youth act as a special interest group within the party. "One of the good things I find about the NDP is that young people aren't just stuffing envelopes, we're active advocates for youth."

Russell has much less power within her party than her Liberal and Tory counterparts. Although she sits on the national executive, she has no office in Ottawa, no seat on Audrey McLaughlin's jet, no paid handlers and no salary. When I called the NDP national campaign headquarters, it took them two hours to find her name and phone number.

In part, this is because the federal NDP is more like a confederation of provincial parties. Russell is confident and well-versed on BC issues, but sounds

alittle foggy on the workings of her federal party.

But unlike her Ottawa-bound counterparts, Russell already has years of experience in grassroots politics. Born in rural B.C., she has a natural interest in issues of agricultural land abuse (which

haven't appeared on federal NDP platforms for 40 years). And she's involved with Amnesty International and education activism.

This kind of politics is more familiar to most young people than the cut and thrust of party conventions. While party youth wings have never been much more than campus clubs, there's been an explosion of youth activism during the last decade around issues like the environment, AIDS, and free trade.

So why get involved with a party at all? "I don't know if I'd want to spend my life working specifically in politics," says Russell. "But once you get a taste of it and realize that by becoming active you really can have a lot of influence, certainly it is tempting." To its rank-and-file members, the NDP looks and feels like a grassroots political organization: at its conventions there's lots of debate about social justice issues and many of the party's resolutions deal with activist concerns.

But the NDP in government has never resem-

bled the NDP at the grassroots level. Premiers like Ontario's Bob Rae and BC's Mike Harcourt have abandoned their party resolutions for policies which differ little from those of the Liberals and Conservatives. Instead of focusing their attention on the legions of unemployed, they have eagerly bolstered low-labor industries and appeased international financiers.

Russell has little to say about this — and there's little point, since her party is unlikely to win even enough seats to remain an official party. "Perhaps things change when you're in government," she acknowledges. But she also says she'd be happy to return to community activism.

Tiny Tories

"I'm more of a meat-and-potatoes man, actually," says Marc Arsenault, leader of the Progressive Conservative Youth. The affable, stocky 24-year-old feels a little out of place sipping cappuccino at a slick cafe in Ottawa's Byward Market, a few blocks from his desk at the Prime Minister's Office.

Arsenault has his own spin on the Generation X theory.

"Among people our age, there's a general feeling that we've been shafted in the past and that we're dealing with huge debt that was given to us by the baby boomers," he says. "So young people are saying, like, enough's enough, put your money where your mouth is and stop spending it like crazy."

This is the conservative side of the 'give us what our parents had' theory. You might call it the 'don't even give us what our parents had' theory.

South of the border, this theory has become something of a cottage industry. The Lead or Leave Campaign, a Washington-based student organization, lobbies politicians to promise to quit if they can't halve the deficit in the next four years. This, they say, should be done by eliminating social security payments. Somehow it is called a "fight for generational equity."

As a youth movement it leaves much to be desired. Deficit-slashing policies hurt under-employed young people (and low-income earners of any age) more than anyone, and there's little evidence that eliminating the deficit would do anything for the economy. Besides, just what sort of a social movement is based on downsizing?

It's really just a cover for neo-conservative economics — do everything we can to make business profitable now, and worry about the people later. Unlike his American counterparts, Arsenault makes no attempt to hide this.

"I'd probably be considered on the right of the Tory party," says Arsenault, who was raised by Liberal supporters in an Acadian town in eastern New Brunswick. "Definitely right. As most Tory youth are." As far as he's concerned, he's on the cutting edge of youth politics. "Society is shifting in a positive way towards, in my opinion, a neo-conservatism, which is good."

While he believes Canada should maintain a social safety net, Arsenault is otherwise firmly ensconced in right-wing, free-market ideology. "I think that business as a whole is good for young people," he says. "I think Canadians now understand that jobs aren't created by government, that business creates jobs, and I think that a new conservative movement toward understanding the market is what's going to get us out of this mess."

Arsenault sees no value in job-creation programs. "For most people the object is jobs, but the object is real jobs and not artificial jobs."

The Tiny Tories (never call them that) are a formidable force. Ideologically united from coast to coast, many of them manage to network and schmooze their way to the upper ranks of the Canadian establishment. Any federal minister's office has hordes of PC Youth on staff.

But Arsenault doesn't see his future in party politics. "I'm enjoying it, and I'm getting a charge out of it, but I couldn't imagine doing it for the rest of my life." As with most anything else, he sees a better life in the private sector. "It's a good job that I'm doing right now, but there's not much security in it," he says. "I could just as easily get back into the private sector, getting a real job."

COMMENT

Big fish eats the small fish

One fateful night last fall a US soldier landed in the Somali capital of Mogadishu. After a moment he spied a sleeping Somali on the docks and gave him a well placed kick in the ass.

For hundreds of thousands of lucky natives across the country Operation Restore Hope had begun. (I wonder who names these masquerades anyway.)

A year later one cannot help but wonder whether enough hope has been restored. Bill's latest announcement that the number of troops in Somalia are to be doubled seems to indicate that more hope is on the way. From the beginning "Operation Restore Hope" has been more of a neo-colonialization event than a relief effort.

The American Restorers of Hope came in style, staging a Normandy-esque landing. (Unfortunately Rommel wasn't around, and the handful of workers who were didn't fare much better than their Axis counterparts four decades ago.) All hope was restored then and there; they were kicked, tossed around, thrown on the ground and handcuffed.

How damn lucky can you get?

Then there was the incredible way in which the operation was presented to the public. The army personnel handed out food to poor starving Somalis. CNN also got their piece of the cake, exploiting starving children with one of their bullshit ads, "Real life. Real drama." And look, what's that? A U.S. Marine singing Christmas carols in the desert!

So if a couple of Somalis get irritated, it's really quite understandable. The Allied Coalition has been

more involved in military conflicts than in the actual objective. Unlike the German occupation of the Rhineland in 1935, the allied guns weren't just for show. Ever since landing, the Allies have proved to be nothing but trigger happy. Everybody had their share of practice with human targets.

This summer in Somalia the Pakistan Army mowed down two dozen women and children. The Americans themselves follow an amazing principle of 'A Somali a day...'. Not to be left behind are their Canadian counterparts who recently bound and gagged three Somalis and then shot them in the head.

Talk about restoring Hope! This is a ball!

If exasperated Somalis get up and say, 'enough is enough, no more,' who can blame them? An American Soldier is shot, the body dragged around the streets, for the killer knows well that America is watching. They think he is a savage and he thinks he should survive. It's another Vietnam, the US starts to believe. Can we really blame the Somali? It's a strategy with fewer dead bodies.

The Allied restorers of hope have done everything but declare war on Somalia. But more troops are being sent. It seems America hasn't learned its lesson. You can only defeat governments, you can't defeat people, for their spirit is far stronger than a bomb from an airplane or a bullet from a loaded gun.

Who gives a damn? We've got nothing to lose.

Unfortunately for the Somalis, the die is cast.

Hasan Karrar

COMMENT

Where's Waldo Now?

Liberals and Bloc disappear following surge in poll

We get closer to democracy through political debates and discussions, right? Here is the chance for the truth to come out, for platforms to be clarified, and for voters to make rational choices.

Too bad the Bloc and the Liberals aren't participating in this forum.

Eugénia Romain, Bloc candidate for St. Henri Westmount, has declined almost every invitation to attend candidate debates. With 52 percent of the vote in Québec, the Bloc doesn't seem concerned about voter opinion.

The same is true of the Liberals who, once proclaimed the winners by the mainstream media, have shut the media and the electorate out. David Berger declined an invitation to participate in a student-candidate forum at McGill on Thursday, claiming he didn't want to leave his riding. (Note: McGill is in his

riding-ed.)

Why does consultation with the electorate deteriorate so rapidly once parties reach the threshold of success? They woo us with platitudes on the economy and the welfare state and once we give them our support, they withdraw from the political process.

In theory, mandates come from the people, but the lead-up to this election is demonstrating a different picture.

In a campaign filled with "it is not our intent" and "not at the moment", the leading parties are running away from the issues.

Responsible parties disclose their platforms and interact with the people they are intending to represent.

Damion Stodola
Kristen Boon

What MAP

To the Daily:

I wonder what map Mr. Dave Austin was looking at when he wrote the front page article on South Africa. Their countries may be small, but I am sure that the Sesotho of Lesotho and the Swazi of Swaziland would be most cha-

grined to discover that they don't form part of Mr. Austin's Southern Africa...

Sally Christie
U4 Arts

Editor's note: Depending on the map and your political orientation, both Lesotho and Swaziland are or

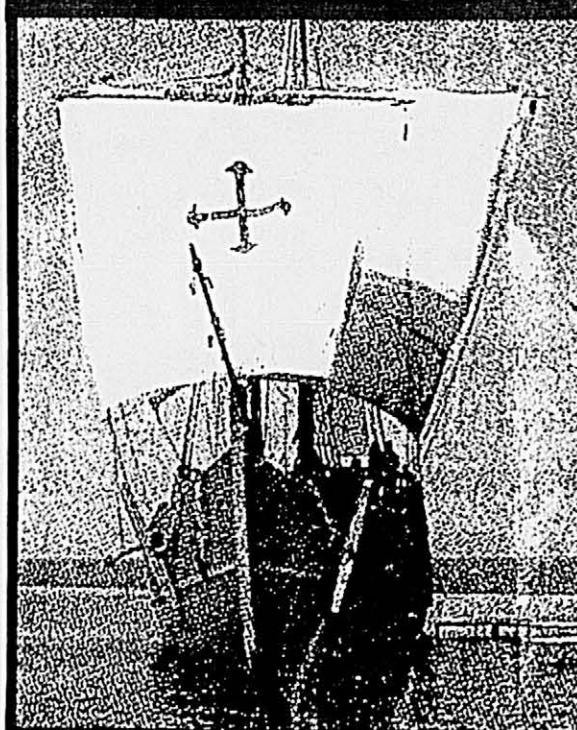
are not considered countries. There are a number of countries that do not recognize the abovementioned as independent states.

Either way, it hardly warrants your tone and excitement!

Kissy Hurray!

To the Daily:

SHIP OF GENOCIDE



WELCOME TO SOMALIA
HAVE A NICE DAY.

HYDE PARK

Democracy... or Disunity?

An opinion by Jamil Mansour, General Union of Palestinian Students

The rapid development in the Middle East peace process has left people from both sides breathless. The people are divided into three groups. Firstly, there are those in favor of the Declaration of Principles: among them, Israelis who have longed for peace, and who have realized that neither might nor power could destroy the will of people. As for the Palestinians, they were relieved that they were finally recognized by their enemy as people with a right to their homeland, or part of it at least. A recognition which will be accompanied by practical steps that should lead to an Israeli withdrawal from the Occupied Territories, and hopefully the establishment of an independent Palestinian State is needed. This gradual withdrawal is necessary to avoid creating a vacuum, and therefore chaos in the area. It seems that the North American media is still biased when it comes to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Secondly are those people with no opinion. And finally are the so called rejectionists, who are the most vocal and seem to be willing to use violence as a means to destroy the peace process. This category is characterized by the media as radicals of both sides. Whether that name is justified or not, they are against the Declaration, and they have vowed to destroy it. As for the official figures, when the Israeli Knesset voted on that issue, the result was 60 for, 51 against, and 9 absent. On the other hand, when the Palestinian Central Council, similar in structure to the PNC (the Palestinian parliament in exile), voted, the result was 63 in favour, 8 against, 12 absent/abstain. It is interesting to notice that the media regards these results as a proof of the democracy on the Israeli side, despite the deeper division, while it is a proof of disunity on the Palestinian side.

For what it's worth, I'd just like to say I am totally and utterly on Kissy's dick.

Josh Bezonsky
Law

Racist

To the Daily:

I would like to respond to the Islamophobic opinion piece by Daniel Koffler published on Wednesday, October 13.

Contrary to Mr. Koffler's "information", nowhere does the Qur'an state that "before the Muslims can triumph, the Jews must be

gathered in Palestine."

Furthermore, according to Mr. Koffler, anyone who opposes the peace treaty probably does not believe in the right of existence of Israel. In particular, this innuendo is directed at the McGill Muslim Students' Association. This is an unfair labelling of an entire group of students on campus, and simply perpetuates the negative stereotypes of Muslims.

Sincerely,

Sheema Khan
Post-Doc., Department of Chemistry

SINCE 1911
Vol. 83 No. 21

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THE MCGILL DAILY

Charges of sexual harassment countered by hunger strike

Confidential hearings dragged into public eye by angry professor

DAILY PHOTO BY TARA CHAR



Professor Dhawan, Concordia

BY MEHREEN BEIG MIRZA

Accused of sexual harassment, Concordia professor Dr. Kailash Chandra Dhawan has chosen to combat the charges by inundating the media with faxes and staging a week-long hunger strike.

Dhawan's most recent press release demands a public inquiry by three or more independent Canadian panelists into the charges against him, despite the fact that an internal Concordia investigation concluded that he was guilty of the charges and issued him a warning letter for his conduct last month.

His fax campaign has angered some officials.

"This is a man who wants special treatment, not justice," says Sally Spilhaus, Concordia's Sexual Harassment Officer.

The former director of the international business program ended a week-long hunger strike on September 29. The strike was a protest against what Dhawan considered the unfair proceedings of the Concordia harassment inquiry which concluded that he had harassed his former part-time secretary, Mary Genova.

During the strike, Dhawan demanded a public inquiry into his case. But the university has been reluctant to drag a confidential harassment case into the public eye. The Board of Governors, Rector and Vice Chancellor Patrick Kenniff, CUFA (Concordia University Faculty Association), Ross and former Code of Conduct Administrator John Relton have all rejected a public investigation of sexual harassment allegations.

On the fifth day of his hunger strike, Concordia said it "would be prepared to designate an independent person to review all of the facts of this case..."

But Dhawan has rejected the offer. He believes a university-run panel "may not prove beneficial in finding the truth, and for suggesting solutions to procedures concerning complaints at Concordia University."

The controversy has divided the faculty, staff and students at Concordia University, particularly

since *The Concordian* (one of the university's student newspapers) was only able to cover the story from Dhawan's perspective.

The article started a steady influx of angry letters to the editor. The *Concordian* article also was able to persuade Genova, who had previously shunned all media contact, to approach *The Link*, a rival newspaper, with her side of the story.

Genova has since resumed her policy of no contact with the media and would only say to *The Daily* that she is very tired and fed up with the way everything is being handled.

"He's abusing her a second time through the media," said Christopher Ross, Dean of Commerce and Administration. "By going to them he broke confidentiality — until then only six people knew."

But Dhawan has said that Ross is ultimately responsible for abusing him through the media. Ross and Dhawan both hint at a history of not getting along professionally.

"I don't believe I'm guilty of the charges. Mary is only a pawn being used by Ross to get at me," complained Dhawan.

But while Dhawan filed a Code of Conduct complaint against Ross in March for the "dirty tricks" he claims Ross is playing to make his life difficult, he has also filed a \$50,000 defamation suit against Genova.

Genova only filed a complaint against Dhawan for sexual harassment after Dhawan filed a complaint against Genova for misuse of funds while working in his office.

Genova was in fact using Dhawan's budget to put out a newsletter. She later repaid the university for the expenses incurred, after an auditor's investigation which Dhawan requested.

She had been cleared by the Associate Dean when he informed her that Dhawan had spoken with him in 1991 about her activities and had requested an auditor's investigation.

Later in the year, Genova approached sexual harassment officer Sally Spilhaus with a complaint of sexual harassment. But Genova had approached female colleagues about Dhawan's behaviour as early as 1989, Spilhaus said.



DAILY PHOTO BY JEFF CORMIER

Justice Richard Goldstone speaks at Moot Court

South Africa's troubled path

BY KRISTEN BOON

Ethnicity may be the most explosive material in the transition to a new South Africa said Justice Richard Goldstone. One of the most respected individuals in South Africa, Goldstone has made balanced and careful investigations as the chair of the influential Commission of Inquiry Regarding the Prevention of Public Violence and Intimidation.

According to Goldstone, inter-tribal warfare is causing the greatest strains in the peace process. The Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) under Mangosuthu Buthelezi has been a troublemaker in particular.

"It is my own belief that some of the violence is more likely to be

ity in recent violent events.

"In the 1980's there was much evidence that the South African government was involved in third force activities," said Goldstone.

It was discovered for example that the National Party, the ruling party in South Africa, secretly funded the Inkatha Freedom Party to incite violence against the ANC.

The Commission does not have the authority to investigate incidents retroactively however.

The legacy of security force complicity has been a major stumbling block in democratizing South Africa. The Goldstone Commission has been responsible for many startling revelations, including a raid carried out last year on the military

to have decreased. Goldstone said he has no reason to believe the government is involved in the current problems. Referring to increasing reports of past government involvement, Goldstone said, "This evidence is fueling conceptions of current involvement in current violence."

Of several recent investigations by the Goldstone Commission, the South Africa Institute of Race Relations reports that violence at the President Steyn gold mine and the Biopatong massacre, have not produced information to incriminate the security forces.

In an interview with the Dutch magazine *Vrij Nederland* in January 1993, Goldstone said, "I don't accept the theory that the government is behind the violence. The violence is not in the interest of the government. If the negotiations process fails, then this government has failed."

The situation at present is a tumultuous one. "The road to a non-racial and democratic form of government has been tortuous. It has been full of pitfalls and detours, many expected, but by the same token many unexpected," said Goldstone.

Goldstone attributed the initiation of a broader movement for racial equality and tolerance to the ANC. "The ANC galvanized the human rights struggle, not simply the liberation struggle in Africa."

"Centuries of racial oppression and discrimination have left us a very sick society."

caused by those parties, whether black or white, who are against the transition to a new South Africa," said Goldstone.

The commission has played a key role in defusing tension in South Africa. The National Peace Agreement signed by 29 parties on September 14, 1992, produced the independent National Peace Secretariat to oversee the day to day maintenance of peace. The commission, and many regional and local peace parties, are two central structures of this body.

Christened "the keeper of the conscience of South Africa" by *Newsweek*, Goldstone's investigations into numerous incidents of violence have shed light on allegations of the government's complicity

intelligence units which resulted in the purging of 23 senior officers.

Since these reports, covert operations by the security forces seem

The profile on Alain Perez, published in the Montréal Special Issue on October 4, was missing the last 6 lines due to a computer error. We apologize for any confusion this may have caused, and reprint the missing section below.

Perez can't see past the Bloc
Promises no Tory cutbacks to social programs
by Dave Everett
Continued from October 4...

Perez is critical of David Berger, the Liberal incumbent, for taking a personal stand against the Charlottetown accord. Last year, the constituency voted 'Yes' in the referendum while Berger campaigned for the 'No'.

Perez implied he's more personally committed to federalism than Berger is.
"He is vulnerable. Inside his own party, he has created an enormous buzz with his flip/flop on the Charlottetown accord...I will fight for federalism."



DAILY FILE PHOTO

Noam Chomsky

BY WAYNE HILTZ

Noam Chomsky has been described as one of the United States' leading dissidents. For over 25 years, this world renowned linguist has been perhaps the most outspoken critic of US foreign policy in the Third World.

During the 1980's, he turned his biting analysis to US interventions in Central America, denouncing the US-financed contra war against the Sandinista government in Nicaragua and US support for brutal Salvadoran and Guatemalan military regimes against popular and revolutionary movements.

With the present United States involvement in the UN imposed embargo against Haiti and the concomitant potential for another US occupation (Haiti was invaded by the United States in 1915 on the pretext of protecting US citizens and American interests in the region) this interview could not be timelier.

Three weeks ago, the *Daily* spoke with Professor Chomsky on current US policy under President Clinton towards Haiti, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Cuba and NAFTA.

Daily: Has there been much change in U.S. policy towards Latin America under the Clinton administration, than under Reagan and Bush?

Chomsky: Well, of course, there's a change. The U.S. won a pretty big victory in Central America so it's no longer necessary to crush and destroy popular forces by terror. They've mostly been subdued and the U.S. did succeed in imposing what it wanted.

A former State Department official under Reagan, Thomas Carruthers, points out that the US was strongly opposed to democracy throughout the whole region - all of Latin America. There's a negative correlation between US influence and democracy. Namely, where US influence was least in the Southern Cone, there was a movement towards democracy which the Reagan administration in fact opposed, though it sort of went along with it.

Where the US interests were stronger, like in Central America, there was a sharp regression. While there was a move towards a formal facade of democracy which Carruthers points out correctly was a top-down kind of democratic change which maintained in control the traditional elites with whom the U.S. has always worked and who will turn the region into a kind of assembly plant for US corporations and a resource center.

And that was pretty much achieved, mainly by terror.

Turning to Haiti, has it been the case that the fears of a left-wing president leads to less than shining support for a Haitian democrat?

That's putting it rather mildly. When President Aristide was overthrown (September 1991) by a military coup after seven months

Chomsky on Latin America

in office, the US essentially did nothing. We have been sitting there and we're still sitting there while the state terrorists are carrying out a very definite and perfectly obvious plan. It is namely to demolish and destroy the popular organizations.

Haiti had developed, to everyone's amazement, an extremely vibrant and lively civil society based on popular movements - labour movements, women's groups and neighbourhood organizations and so on, which came out of nowhere. And it achieved this astonishing victory in the December 1990 elections which swept Aristide to power.

And now the military and the kleptocracy, which runs the place and whom we established and maintained in the first place, are now demolishing it. They are tearing it to shreds so that, if Aristide ever does get back, he will basically be without a base of popular support. The whole structure is designed so that if he gets back at all, which is not so obvious, and stays alive which is maybe even less obvious, power will be back in the hands of what are called "moderate" elements of the business community.

As the press explains, they are opposed to Aristide's populist reforms. But they're moderate because they don't think that you should just murder everybody in sight.

Despite getting in a sympathetic conservative government in Nicaragua in 1990, why does it seem that the U.S. is still bent on undermining it?

In 1979, the traditional murderers, torturers and oppressors were finally thrown out, including their U.S. affiliates, those who owned property in Nicaragua and who had worked together with Somoza in imposing a brutal and violent tyranny over the population and then robbing them. So their property was confiscated without what the U.S. called adequate compensation.

First, we spent a decade running a murderous, terrorist war against Nicaragua and the US was condemned by the World Court. That didn't make any difference. It just continued right through Bush. Finally, the US sort of got its way and got in the government what it wanted.

In the meanwhile, it managed to ruin the country. Nicaragua is virtually down to the level of Haiti with tens of thousands of kids starving in the streets. But the U.S. won't relent.

A couple of months ago, the Senate passed a resolution saying it [will] cut off the little trickle of aid going to Nicaragua unless they prove that they were not involved in international terrorism. That really takes arrogance. We carried out the biggest terrorist war in history to destroy Nicaragua and now we demand that they prove to us that they are not involved in international terrorism and that they let the FBI go in to ensure that that's true.

But last week (September 22), the Senate surpassed it and passed a bill by 94 to 4, saying that there would be absolutely no aid to Nicaragua at all unless they returned confiscated Somoza properties.

Do you think the recently signed NAFTA side deals on environmental and labour issues will make much of a difference or will they lower social standards in all three countries?

I read the side deals. It's essentially meaningless without going into the details. NAFTA is not a North American Free Trade Agreement. The only true thing in that phrase are the words "North American". It's not free, it's not about trade, and it's surely not an agreement. In fact, take a look at the polls (against NAFTA) in the United States and Canada or popular demonstrations in Mexico and you'll find out how much [of] an agreement it is.

It's highly protectionist so it's not free. It goes way beyond trade so it's not trade. The reasons that American corporations like it, and probably their Canadian counterparts, is precisely because of its protectionist features. The few real advocates of free trade oppose it because it is so highly protectionist.

The whole agreement is carefully designed and delicately crafted to protect the rights of investors and to disregard the rights of working people and the general population and of future genera-

tions - that's what environmental concerns are. They had hoped to ram it through in secret. It was basically crafted in secret. Nobody knew about it.

But to their surprise, grass-roots organizations and others got concerned and began to make a fuss about it and the thing came in the public domain. There's a lot of opposition. In fact, most of the population is opposed, maybe for the wrong reasons. But opposition is enormous.

What about the media coverage on the opposition to NAFTA? Is it too much focussed on Ross Perot?

That's right. They pick up Ross Perot. That's the only opposition that's tolerated and the reason is that his objections to it are absurd. So you can make fun of them. On the other hand, what about the objections that were presented by the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment, Congress' main analytical branch.

They gave a detailed, careful analysis of why this particular version of NAFTA is radically incorrect and will drive all three countries down to what they call a low-wage, low-growth equilibrium with harmonization downward. And they offered quite constructive proposals for a revision that would not simply be geared to investor rights and try to consider broader social concerns. The press won't cover that!

What is the U.S. role in the peace process in El Salvador and in next March's elections there?

The U.S. wants top-down forms of democratic control which will keep in power elite elements that will establish what we call market societies. We will impose the discipline of the market, which we don't accept for ourselves of course. But we'll impose it on these countries so that they can be exporters of raw materials, they can provide cheap labour, they can be places to which you can export pollution.

What we want is for them to keep that service role. If it can be done under a electoral facade, fine. If it can't, we'll come in and force them and murder them as we've been doing for seventy years.

There have been some small signs of a lessening of hostility with Cuba. Does this mean a gradual rapprochement with Cuba or there will be continued hostility?

There are two things which have to be achieved [for the US]. First, Cuba has to be restored to its traditional status, namely an American plantation which it was until 1959. Secondly, the world has to be taught a lesson that anyone who stands up to the godfather gets smashed.

Cuba was able to survive for years and that's intolerable [to the US]. The Third World has to understand that our vision of the world is totalitarian. Everyone succumbs, nobody stands up and if you do, you'll suffer. So the Cubans are going to suffer. For about 30 years, the pretext was that we're opposed to Cuba because it's a Soviet outpost. That was a total fraud from the beginning.

In fact, the decision to overthrow the Cuban government was formally taken by the Eisenhower administration even when there were no Russians in sight and Castro was quite anti-communist. The Russians then disappeared from the scene [last year] eliminating the pretext.

The US response was to tighten the strangulation of Cuba. Under pressure from candidate Clinton in the election campaign, Bush signed a bill advanced by liberal Democrats - the Torricelli Bill - which tightened the embargo. There were huge protests in Europe and Latin America, but who cares? That's the way things work.

Do you see any reason for optimism for popular movements in Latin America?

The only hope for popular movements in Latin America is exactly what it has always been. If they get sufficient support from within the United States which will impede the exercise of US power, then they'll have a chance to survive. Otherwise not.

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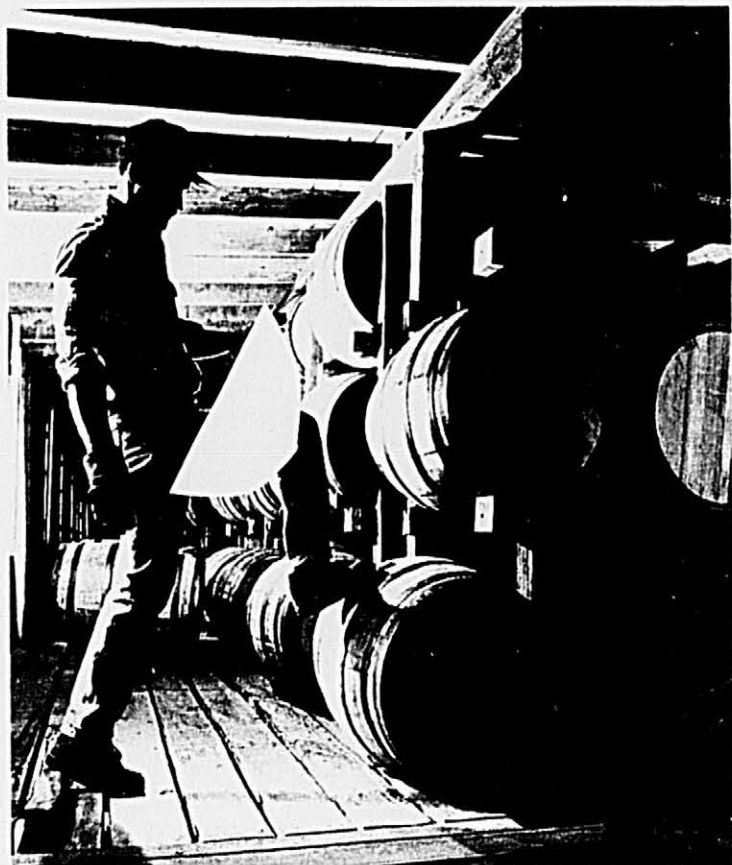
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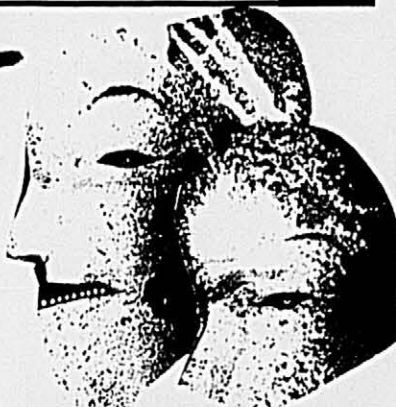


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THE MCGILL DAILY

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NEWS BRIEFS

Protesters at K.O.X. say NO to sexism

Women took off their shirts at K.O.X. this past Friday to protest recent sexist policy at the nightclub.

Lesbians, Bisexuals, & Gays of McGill (LBGM) arranged the demonstration in response to two LBGM members being kicked out of K.O.X. for baring their breasts a few weeks ago. The protesters passed out leaflets and chanted "No to sexism".

Beti was one of those 'removed' from K.O.X., a club known for its skin-bare flair. She took her top off and danced on a speaker. "I felt somebody nudging my leg. It was one of the staff guys. He goes, 'You're topless, you have to put your bra back on.'"

When she pointed out the many half-naked men in the club, Beti was told, "It's ok for men to do it, but women can't." Which, Beti added, "is bullshit."

When Beti and her friend refused to cover their breasts, they were forcibly removed from K.O.X.

Chris Carter, president of LBGM, called the protest an overwhelming success. "The K.O.X. staff...were forced to make their policy clear on topless women. K.O.X. stated (after the protest) that their overall policy is to allow women to show their breasts."

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The University of Toronto wants to fire a tenured professor who runs his own chain of universities.

Herbert Richardson, a professor of religion at St. Michael's College, was sent a notice of dismissal by the University of Toronto in early July, due to an alleged "breach of fiduciary responsibility."

An academic tribunal will attempt to determine whether the dismissal can proceed.

The University of Toronto's administration has grown increasingly concerned about Richardson's off-campus activities. The professor is the owner of publishing house Mellen Press, as well as the founder of two (as yet) unaccredited universities.

Degree requirements at Richardson's universities, one located in the Caribbean, the other in Kansas, are slightly less rigorous than those at Canadian schools.

For example, Turks and Caicos Islands-based Mellen University offers a "BA for Life Experience" for \$995. Although students need not actually attend classes, they must demonstrate "religious and moral self-consistency," "live life in a rational way," display "cultural literacy, creative expressiveness and multicultural sensitivity," and prove proficiency in "social comprehension and psychological self-knowledge."

Only one class has graduated from Mellen U so far. 11 ministers from North Carolina all flew to the Caribbean to receive PhD's in "pastoral supervision" last April.

Founded in September of last year, the University of Western Kansas was intended to augment Mellen Press, an esoteric and quasi-academic publishing house Richardson formed in Lewiston, New York in 1973. Mellen Press was not unprofitable, grossing \$2.5 million in 1992, up from \$600,000 in 1988.

The press ran into trouble until 1989, when accusations of plagiarism were made about Stephen Barnes, whose book *Muzak: The Hidden Messages in Music* was published by Mellen. In 1990, another book by Joseph Washington drew the scrutiny of many librarians who were uneasy about the book's title, *The First Fugitive Foreign and Domestic Doctor of Divinity: Rational Race Rules of Religion and Realism Revered and Reversed or Revised* by the Reverend Doctor James William Charles Pennington.

— Brian David DiLeandro, *The Varsity*, Toronto.

Gay studies program considered

University of British Columbia's Faculty Association Committee on Gay and Lesbian issues hopes to build on the success of this fall's UBC lesbian and gay lecture series, co-chair Douglas Sanders said.

The negotiations will include whether there should be more lesbian and gay courses generally, or whether there should be a degree granting program.

Although several Canadian universities have offered lesbian and gay courses, none have set up degree-granting programs in the field. Gay studies degree-granting programs are currently available at the University of Utrecht in Holland, City University of New York and the University of San Francisco.

Sanders believes more queer studies would be very useful. An informal survey by his committee in 1991 found lesbians and gays "were nonexistent in the classroom."

"Obviously the atmosphere has been hostile to homosexuals at UBC. Generally speaking, gay and lesbian issues have been excluded in courses," Sanders said. "It's changing, but most student and faculty gays, lesbians and bisexuals are still in the closet."

Dionne Brand, a University of Guelph English professor and novelist, thinks UBC should adopt a gay studies program.

"Maybe all of white patriarchal culture will be reduced to the status of a lowly study series with a few courses. Wouldn't that be great?"

— Rick Hiebert, *the Ubysey*, Vancouver

Shiny new carpool on campus

Transit Network drives for members

BY MICHAEL KLUK

There's a club on campus that promises to solve downtown Montreal's parking woes, save the environment, rescue Students' Society from financial doom, and safely transport McGill students to and from school. They are media darlings, loved by CHOM, CJAD and were featured recently on CTV's "Fighting Back". Québec Minister of Transportation Sam Elkas loves them so much he sent a spanking new Macintosh as a birthday present.

Is it QPIRG? Is it Walksafe? The Women's Union maybe?

Nice try. Think carpool.

The Transit Network, the latest addition to the SSMU club roster, is a carpool system for McGill students. Network co-president Howard Markowitz says the new club is "a safe, comfortable alternative to those forced into riding the bus or metro."

The Transit Network targets two main groups of students: those coming in from the suburbs who waste time circling the downtown core in desperate search of a parking space and those who rely on public transportation, which can turn getting to school into a two-hour journey.

Members who drive to and from campus five times a week pay nothing and are given a free parking space, either in the Mac Med garage or in a private lot off Sherbrooke Street. Those who don't have cars pay the Network at most \$36 per month, depending on the number of travel days (still less than a \$43 metro pass).

"Unlike other clubs, ours is the only one which isn't costing the SSMU any money. In fact, it is actually generating revenue, which goes



Take a ride with Lorne Daitchman, Co-president

straight back to the Student's Society or is used to purchase more campus parking spaces," said Markowitz.

At present, rides are available everywhere from Westmount to Dollard, Hampstead and Côte St-Luc. A woman from Ste-Jovite was matched with a fellow student, thus cutting their transportation costs in half.

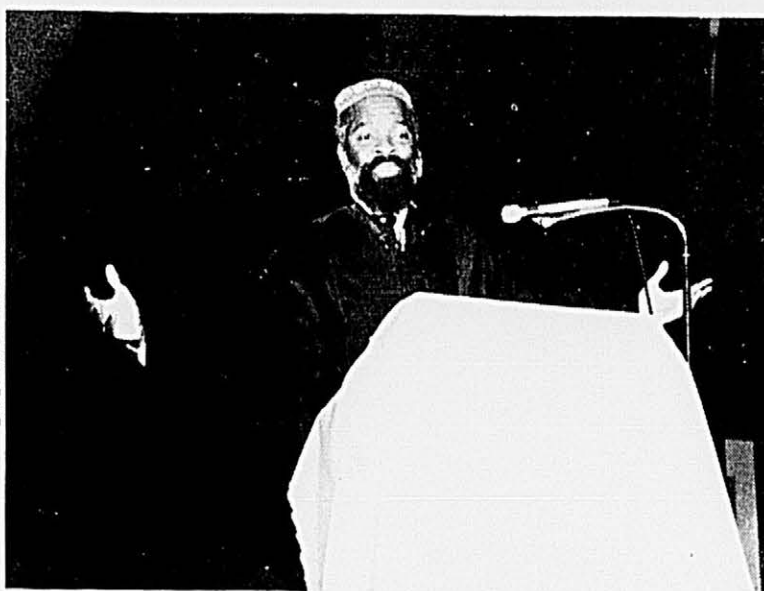
Rides are usually available at half-hour intervals during the morning and afternoon and also, though less frequently, through the evening.

The Network has had nothing but positive support. Besides donating a new computer, the Québec Department of Transportation has agreed to hire a full-time staff person to co-ordinate the office for next year.

Walksafe should be so lucky.

The McGill Transit Network is holding its membership drive for the month of November until this Thursday. You can join by either visiting their office in Shatner 408 or by giving them a call at 398-2902.

Black Muslim leader speaks on youth



Siraj Wahaj

BY AFRA JALABI

Siraj Wahaj, a Muslim Afro-American leader, spoke to a large crowd in the Champlain Regional College auditorium on Monday Oct. 18. The event was organized by

Champlain Students' Muslim Association to raise funds for establishing an Islamic Youth Information and Direction Centre.

Siraj Wahaj, a former member

of the Nation of Islam, is currently the vice president of al-Taqwaq Mosque in Brooklyn. He is a well known speaker among the Muslim and Black communities.

Wahaj is actively involved in the Muslim community of New York and had lead anti-drug rallies in his neighbourhood and was able, with the help of his Mosque, to close down 15 drug houses for good. His powerful and charismatic style of speaking never fails to engage his audiences.

His speech focused on the challenges facing Muslim youth in North America. "What we lack is a personal virtue of wisdom and strength," said Siraj Wahaj. "The question is, can our youth develop to become that? That's the challenge."

The event was considered a success as it raised over \$4000 for the Youth Centre.